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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		Application Number	09/592,462
		Filing Date	June 9, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Tracy E. Grim et al.
		Art Unit	3728
		Examiner Name	Marie Patterson
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	6	Attorney Docket Number	ROYCE-66774

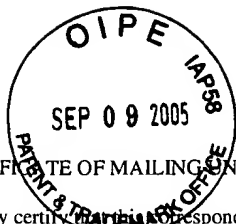
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm Name	Fulwider Patton Lee & Utecht LLP		
Signature			
Printed name	Scott R. Hansen		
Date	September 7, 2005	Reg. No.	38,486

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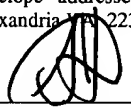
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Scott R. Hansen, Reg. No. 38,486

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/592,462
Applicant : Tracy E. Grim et al.
Filed : June 9, 2000
Title : FOOTGEAR WITH PRESSURE RELIEF ZONES
Art Unit : 3728
Examiner : Marie Patterson

Docket No.: : ROYCE-66774
Customer No. : 24201

Mail Stop Amendment
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF AUGUST 22, 2005

Sir:

The undersigned thanks the Examiner for indicating that the present application is in condition for allowance.


The Office Action of 08/22/2005 indicates that the original patent must now be submitted. However, it is respectfully noted that a recent retroactive change in 37 CFR

1.178 eliminates the requirement of submitting the original patent. (See 1287 Official Gazette Patent Office 67; see also Official Gazette Notice dated 12 October 2004).

Enclosed are relevant pages from a presentation on the rule change from the website of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. It is noted that this new rule change, which is retroactive and applies to this case, is not reflected in the most current version of the MPEP that is available on www.uspto.gov.

In view of the rule change, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested without submission of the original Letters Patent.

Respectfully submitted,
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Changes to Support Implementation of the USPTO 21st Century Strategic Plan, Final Rule 69 FR 56481 (September 21, 2004) 1287 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 67 (October 12, 2004)

Office of Patent Legal Administration (OPLA)
(571) 272-7701
Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy (DCPEP)
PatentPractice@uspto.gov

January 1, 2005

Effective Dates

There are ~~three effective dates~~ based on the September 21, 2004 date of publication of the final rule in the Federal Register, as follows:

1. ~~September 21, 2004~~ - The changes to 37 CFR §§ 1.4, 1.6, 1.10, 1.27, 1.57(a)(1) & (a)(2), 1.78, 1.84, 1.115, 1.137, ~~1.178,~~ and 1.311.
2. October 21, 2004 - The changes to 37 CFR §§ 1.8, 1.52, 1.57 (b) – (g), 1.58, 1.63, 1.69, 1.76, 1.83, 1.85, 1.91, 1.94, 1.98, 1.102, 1.105, 1.111, 1.121, 1.131, 1.165, 1.173, 1.175, 1.179, 1.215, 1.324, 10.18 and 104.3.
3. November 22, 2004 - The changes to 37 CFR §§ 1.12, 1.14, 1.17, 1.19, 1.47, 1.53, 1.57(a)(3), 1.59, 1.84(a)(2), 1.103, 1.136, 1.182, 1.183, 1.291, 1.295, 1.296, 1.377, 1.378, 1.550, 1.741, 1.956, 5.12, 5.15, 5.25 and 41.20.

Reissue Applications

37 CFR 1.175 and 1.178

If a reissue continuation of a reissue application is filed and the parent reissue is not being abandoned, then the continuation must identify an error not corrected in the parent reissue application. § 1.175.

The requirement for physical surrender of the original patent has been eliminated. § 1.178.

- ✓ Surrender is automatic upon grant of the reissue patent.
- ✓ Effective date: September 21, 2004, the date of publication of the final rule.
- ✓ Applies retroactively to all pending reissue applications.